

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 09607 132353Z

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ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 INR-05 SSO-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4790

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN, MX, US

SUBJECT: DOT PUBLIC WORKS RELATIONSHIP

REF: STATE 249961

1. DESPITE MISGIVINGS EXPRESSED HAYNE/GALLAGHER
TELCON THIS MORNING OVER NATURE OF REPRESENTATIONS, UPON
RECEIPT REFTEL E/C COUNSELOR URGENTLY SOUGHT APPOINTMENT
WITH ING. ROBOLFO FELIX VALDES, SUBSECRETARIO DE OBRAS
PUBLICAS, WHO WILL LEAD MEXICAN GROUP TO SAN DIEGO.

2. FELIX'S OFFICE ASSERTED FELIX "TERRIBLY BUSY" SINCE
HE IS LEAVING TOMORROW TO VISIT TABASCO AND CHIAPAS AND
GOING TO SAN DIEGO NEXT WEEK. THEY DECLINED MAKE APPOINTMENT
ALTHOUGH WE OFFERED COME AT WHATEVER TIME. FELIX REFUSED
ALSO TO SPEAK ON TELEPHONE, BUT AFTER SEVERAL TRIES, HIS
PRIVATE SECRETARY (MORE OF AN ASSISTANT), ING. SERGIO LOPEZ MENDOZA,
ASKED IF HE COULD HELP.

3. IN REPLY TO QUESTION BASED ON REFTEL, LOPEZ MENDOZA
SAID OBJECTION TO PRESENCE REPRESENTATIVE OF DEPT. OF STATE
AT SAN DIEGO WAS POSITION OF OBRAS PUBLICAS AND NOT THAT OF
AMATO.

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 09607 132353Z

&. IN RESPONSE TO OUR FURTHER INQUIRIES PER INSTRUCTIONS,

LOPEZ MENDOZA SAID THAT GOM WANTED "RECIPROCITY" ON TWO SIDES AND THAT SINCE RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS WOULD BE ELSEWHERE "OUT OF COUNTRY", RATHER THAN POSTPONE MEETING, DECISION WAS MADE TO REQUEST THAT DEPT. OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE NOT BE PRESENT. LOPEZ MENDOZA COULD NOT PROVIDE NAME OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OFFICERS IN QUESTION.

5. WE POINTED OUT THAT IT SEEMED UNUSUAL FOR ONE NATION SUGGEST COMPOSITION OF ANOTHER COUNTRY'S DELEGATION AND THAT UNLIKE SITUATION HERE, WHERE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS DELEGATES MOST AUTHORITY ON ECONOMIC MATTERS TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS, DEPT. OF STATE RETAINS LARGE MEASURE RESPONSIBILITY ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC MATTERS. WE REMINDED LOPEZ MENDOZA THAT DELEGATIONS TO U.S.-MEXICAN AIR NEGOTIATIONS WERE LED BY DEPT. OF STATE ON ONE HAND AND MEXICO'S DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION ON OTHER.

6. IN REPLY OUR FURTHER QUESTIONS, LOPEZ MENDOZA STATED AMATO HAD NO OFFICIAL POSITION AND WAS ONLY A "CONTACT."

7. LOPEZ MENDOZA SAID THAT HE WOULD PASS ON OUR COMMENTS TO FELIX AND THAT THERE WAS NO MORE INFORMATION HE COULD GIVE US.
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